

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

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Volume XXXV. No. 199

## AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and  
83d St.—LA BELLE-THE NATIONS.WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—  
FRITZ, OUR COUSIN GERMAN.ROBERT THEATRE, Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAIN-  
MENT.WOOD'S MUSEUM AND MENAGERIE, Broadway, cor-  
ner Third St.—Performances every afternoon and evening.THEATRE COMIQUE, 614 Broadway.—COMIO VOCAL.  
18th, 19th and 20th Sts.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 288 Broadway.—  
BUCKLEY'S SEVEN SISTERS.TERRACE GARDEN, Fifth-13th street and Third ave-  
nue.—GRAND VIOLET AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—  
SCIENCE AND ART.DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 745 Broadway.—  
SCIENCE AND ART.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, July 18, 1870.

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COLLECTOR MURPHY and Naval Officer Grinnell will enter on their new duties to-day. The "outs" are pressing forward hopefully, and the "ins" have the usual attack of nervousness.

OUR MEXICAN CORRESPONDENCE, which will be found on another page, details in full the state of affairs in Mexico. It is hardly necessary to say that the country is in its usual condition—revolutionary all over. No matter which way we look, we perceive those influences at work, hastening on to inevitable destruction what might be a happy and peaceful nation.

WALL STREET AND THE WAR NEWS.—The effort to get up a financial excitement over the war news has so far been discouraging to the Wall street speculators. The future has been already greatly discounted in that region, and the public show little disposition to join the "bulls" and "bears." Should the war be prolonged money will be worth more in legitimate channels of business than in stock and gold gambling.

DOWNING, THE OYSTERMEN, has been shamefully treated by the Congressional Committee on Public Buildings. He has been ordered to quit his restaurant in the Capitol within thirty days, and a negro barber, who, probably, has no more political cast than he could have obtained by shaving Senatorial chins or cropping Congressional hair, is to be put in his place. Downing has filled Congressional and even Presidential stomachs, and therefore has a closer connection with the radical body politic than the haircutter. He feels the insult deeply, and, being chairman of the National Republican General Committee of Colored Men, he will most probably feed fat the grudge he owes the party.

GAY AT LONG BRANCH.—This week will inaugurate the gay season at Long Branch. The President will be there; Collector Murphy will be there; some of our city officials will be on hand; the Saratoga races will close, and Vanderbilt, Belmont, and Barlow will all hurry to Long Branch to take part in the opening of the gay season. Flak will ride up and down on his gay Plymouth Rock, Jay Gould will leave Wall street at the close of bank hours and spend his evenings at the Branch, Dan Drew will attend church there on Sundays, Mayor Hall will wrench himself away from his labors and give the beach a night or two a week of his presence, and the small fry aristocracy and politicians will make up the crowd for six weeks to come.

## War in Europe—Opportunity of the United States.

Our commerce should be just now the leading subject of national attention. In the present juncture of the world's affairs there appears the opportunity that, rightly improved, might not only restore to us the maritime strength that was swept away in our great war, but out of which also we might secure a start that would easily enable us to distance within a few years every rival power. At this moment there are twenty-six German steamers carrying passengers between ports in Europe and the United States. All these must stop at the very mention of the presence outside of a French cruiser. Sailing from this port also are all the splendid steamers of the "Compagnie Générale Transatlantique," and these must stop, for there is also a Prussian man-of-war not far away. And this statement of the case with regard to the splendid passenger steamers, many of which also have a fine trade in first class freight, is the statement of the whole case with regard to French and German commerce. Each nation has naval power enough to drive the mercantile marine of the other from the seas. What shall become of the numerous trade thus done—and of the great number of ships engaged in it that are not fit for war, and ought not to rot in blockaded ports? England already has covetous eyes on this great trade, and in the assumption that "business will fall to neutral flags" the government is urged to remain neutral despite every possible complication that may arise.

British neutrality in this war will no doubt result greatly to the advantage of the British shipping trade, and for this reason alone every nerve will be strained to keep Great Britain out of the Continental struggle.

Will this effort be successful? It is doubtful. Already we hear that neutrality will be inconsistent with the honor of England if the Low Countries seem to be in danger, and this reference to the fact that England is one of the Powers that guarantee the independence of Belgium is too plain for misconception. Again, we hear the intimation that England morally stands behind Prussia, and that any sign of failure on the part of the latter Power will draw England into the struggle. The very fact that these things are canvassed renders the neutrality of English ships uncertain, and so unsafe, and the probability is that the United States alone will have it within its power to reap all the harvest of this war. Indeed, this is a change that is justly due us in the whirlwind of time; for as one war destroyed our commerce and built up the maritime trade of some European ports at our expense, it is but proper that another war should build up our trade again at the expense of the commerce of Europe.

But it is not only from the effects of our war that our commerce is prostrate. It was stricken down by the war, but it has been kept down by the inconceivable folly of certain of our laws—laws like the compact with Shylock—framed to "protect" certain interests, to give those interests their pound of flesh, though this could only be done at the expense of the whole body from which the flesh must be cut. Before, therefore, war in Europe can give us again that of which war in America deprived us, we must first set aside these most foolish, villainous, pocket-picking laws; these laws framed to enrich ten men and starve ten thousand; laws which declare that this great nation shall own no ships except it can make terms with Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, and a few more men of his kidney; laws only second in atrocity to those slave laws that the nation has recently torn out of its life at such frightful cost; laws whose authors and supporters, if the slaveholder deserved all the opprobrium cast upon him, should be stoned in the streets of every city of the republic.

The world has not for many generations seen a more bewildering, confounding spectacle of imbecility, of downright inability to comprehend and grasp a simple thought—than that shown by the United States Congress when its attention was properly called to this subject on Friday last. The President by special message pointed out the opportunity, and hinted at the way we could improve it, but his words fell on minds preoccupied with another thought. What was this grand thought that left no room even for the proposition to erase the last great disadvantage left by the war? It was the reflection of every member that he had his ticket in his pocket, that he had made up his mind to go home, that he did not want to be delayed and stop for the bother of any more legislation, however imperatively necessary for the interests of the nation; and in this pitiful haste to get away, and for this puerile reason, the Congress of the United States turned a deaf ear to one of the most important messages that ever came to it from the Executive. Some members there were who proposed a measure that might have covered the case; but Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, was there, standing, as one might suppose, bludgeoned in hand, determined that the nearly lifeless body of American commerce should not rise while he could strike, and in the criminal indifference of the mass of members to their duty he was able to kill the proposition that was made. Such, then, is the patriotism of the republican party, and such is the contrast between its conduct in the presence of a real national emergency and the ready attention it once gave to the nigger and now gives to every form of corrupt jobbery. Shall our opportunity pass because of a recent and imbecile Congress, or must the government study means to evade the operation of oppressive laws?

## The Police Difficulty.

The determination not to accept the resignation of Superintendent Jourdan should be only the first step of police reform. Commissioner Brennan is an experienced police tactician. He is soon, it is said, to be made Sheriff of the county. Let him inaugurate in the meantime a new era of police discipline; for it must be evident to every observer that the excellent intentions of Messrs. Hall and Sweeney at the outset of the charter imbroglio will at the next trial, be successful. If the Commissioners won't expressly give Superintendent Jourdan the power that he needs as commander-in-chief, can he not as far as possible implicitly exercise it? Then, if the Commissioners dispute any of his actions as an executive, the public and the politicians of next winter in the Legislature will be brought

face to face with a very palpable but manageable mischief. The community generally hold the Superintendent responsible for the disastrous beginning of the recent riot, while they award him credit for dealing with the exigency promptly and efficiently when he had sole responsibility. But generals in all new armies have suffered great or little disasters, which only served to instigate them to fresh exertions.

## European War News—France and Germany Enthusiastic for Battle—The People Agitated.

A series of cable telegrams, received from the Old World during yesterday and last night, which we publish this morning, report to the American people the development of the war *furor* which prevails between France and Germany. There were "rumors from the front" of a severe battle having been fought between the contending armies at a point of territorial border contact. It was said that thousands had been killed on either side. Of this we had no confirmation at an early hour this morning. The prevalence of such rumors, should they prove to be merely rumors, at such an early date of the struggle proves conclusively that the "reliable gentleman" is not exactly indigenous to American soil in war.

The cable despatches go to show that France is a unit for war; that Germany is united and a unit for war. In such a crisis somebody will be very seriously hurt. It is like the schoolboy proposition in science—"If a body which cannot give way meets another body which won't give way, what will be the result?" The agitation of the peoples of France and North Germany is extreme. Napoleon is supported by the nation. The French Legislature presented an address to the Emperor, couched in words of the most devoted loyalty. The members hint at the previous existence of a "monarchical combination" conducted in a "mysterious" manner, but with a Prussian connivance against the empire. Money "pours" in for war purposes by voluntary subscription, and a new loan, to Paris. Changanier is to command the French reserves as a Marshal of France; a graceful and well-timed compliment by Bonaparte to the democracy. The Empress Eugenie is called on by the Legislative Body to assume the chief control of the State during the absence of the Head of the Army. Her Majesty is now in Paris. The Prince Imperial will accompany his father to the field. This is French; of and for France, with a good deal of other exciting matter besides.

Germany is equally enthusiastic. It is in the German fashion—exact, practical and with few words. King William of Prussia enjoyed a most enthusiastic reception at Cologne. His people demanded to be marched into France immediately. They will give money; give their lives. Germany knows no North, no South. The nation remains one against insult or territorial violation. The seriousness, the imminent gravity of this Franco-German crisis, can be estimated more accurately by paying attention to the great official care and diplomatic caution which are observed and exercised by the surrounding Powers to escape if possible from participation in the hurry-burly. From Brussels to Madrid and from London to Vienna come either actual declarations or evident symptoms of neutrality. After the fashion of Eolus, they will endeavor to confine the conflicting and combative blasts of democracy within their caves and cabins of woe and plaint, well knowing that if the popular whirlwind should rush forth—the *Una Eurus, Notusque ruunt et Africus*, of Virgil—crowns and thrones would be in danger; settle over perhaps to such a degree of insecurity that we should soon hear of many noble young men becoming quite as disinterested in their declension of the tender of such baubles as is Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern in regard to those of Spain.

The democracy is indeed in motion. It is taking sides, and is being used as a power for or against. The Italians in Florence made a demonstration against France yesterday. They went unequivocally, on the streets at least, for Germany, but appeared to prefer neutrality to active war for either. The Italian movement is significant, however. Prim is about to visit Vichy again. Hungary has found her tongue. She has, as we are assured from London, cast her political voice for France. The Hungarian leaders think they can perceive the sheen of true democracy from the tricolor. If this news should prove to be exactly correct Austria will have received a warning; the black eagle be alarmed by the clear chirp of the fledgling of the plains. Hanover is becoming excited. Her Prussian military guardian is on the *qui vive*. Denmark and the Northern Duchies have assumed an attitude of expression. That attitude pleases France. The Danes wish to rally round the flag of Napoleon. They, as we hear from Paris, threaten revolution should their rulers act contrary to their wishes. Revolution! It is an ominous word just now in Europe. The British Channel fleet appeared off the coast of Belgium yesterday, where it joined the United States squadron. This indicates something serious. Has Great Britain heard a popular murmur from Brussels? Does she think of the men of the "ramparts of Antwerp" or of the spades and shovels of the lines of Torres Vedras? Which? Perhaps she will inform our naval commanders abroad, and that they will assure us of "no entangling alliances" for foreign war purposes.

A PARTY OF FOUR PERSONS, two of them ladies, in a carriage, attempted to drive across the Camden and Cape May Railroad track on Saturday in front of a moving train. They were run over; three of them were killed outright and the fourth was fatally injured. Such an accident as this is of strangely frequent occurrence, though none of late has been so disastrous in its consequences. Why is it that persons will attempt such dangerous feats, when very little time would be lost and no danger would be incurred by allowing the train to pass first? There must be something of that strange infatuation or fascination in it that is said to beset men when on a fearful height to jump off, or when swift rushing engines are passing to throw themselves under the wheels, and which often than we think can alone account for what coroners' juries call "accidental death" or "suicide without a motive."

## The Franco-Prussian War and Infallibility in the Churches Yesterday.

Yesterday several of our clergymen referred in their sermons to the Franco-Prussian war. Of course, this was to have been expected. It was really refreshing to hear them denounce the contest. Brother Beecher thought there was no moral principle animating either nation, although he believed there was naturally a strong sympathy for Prussia, which was at the head of a democratic and liberal minded people. Rev. Mr. Jones, at the Water street depot, almost regretted that France had not obeyed the divine injunction and, when Prussia smote her with Prince Leopold on one cheek, turned her the other (Alsace and Lorraine, no doubt). Rev. Mr. Powers, at the Elm place Congregational church, sincerely hoped that the Christian nations would interfere and stop the war, which was waged without cause. In a word it was charming to hear these preachers plead eloquently for peace. How changed their views have become since 1859 and 1860! How Christian! Do we not recall how these same gentlemen, in both sections of the country, preached red hot sermons? Was there not a skirmish in each sentence, a heavy bombardment in each paragraph and a general engagement in each discourse? But then our cause was holy, and the Southern preachers said their cause was holy. The idea that the Germans and French associate holiness with their respective causes evidently did not strike Mr. Beecher. Rev. Mr. Smyth, of the American Free Church, was the only preacher on this war topic who deduced from it a Christian lesson. And even he dealt more on its general than on its specific features.

After all, these pious arguments against bloodshed, if even a trifle Pecknifian, serve a good purpose. If we pull out the mote that is in our brother's eye, the operation ought to benefit him; though what good it does us poor creatures, half-blinded by the beam that is in our own eyes, we shall not even venture to suggest. Still, it was somewhat inconsistent, after preaching peace and good will to all in the morning to pitch into the Pope in the evening, as was done by Mr. Powers. This clergyman predicted that at no distant day the sword would be drawn in this land to establish absolutism in the Church. In fact he snifed "bid, ha, ba! dam—med vilyun!" Heaven forbid that his prediction should ever be realized. The most unholiest of all wars is a religious one. Rev. Mr. Tunison, at the Hoboken Methodist Church, believed that the Romish church was "dead" and "damed." Rev. John Love, of the Antioch Baptist church, declared the dogma of infallibility to be blasphemy. Thus do some preachers set an example of Christian love and charity to the world!

The other sermons were on various interesting topics. We must refer the reader to our reports of them, published elsewhere, for a knowledge of their contents. Rev. Mr. Mayo, of Cincinnati, preached at the Church of the Saviour, in Brooklyn, and volunteered the information that "hell is only a reform school for heaven." Five persons assembled at the Murray Hill Baptist chapel to listen to an interesting discourse on baptism. The reverend speaker favored public immersion, and so doubtless did his congregation, which had evidently gone to Long Branch and other watering places where they could be publicly immersed. The frightfully hot weather kept all the churches almost empty. Prayers at church on such a day as yesterday demanded an exercise of will few persons are capable of, and we trust, therefore, that they prayed at home with due gravity and devotion.

## Our Shipping Interests—The Blunder of Congress.

The agent of the North German Lloyd's steamers is at present in Washington, where he is canvassing the probabilities of reversing the negative action of Congress on the proposition to transfer his vessels to the American flag. He presents the case in such a light that the penny wise and pound foolish Congressmen, who preferred that the country should lose all the advantages of the transfer rather than that they should lose their free passages on the railways homeward, will be able to see their folly in a clear light. The Prussian government offered us the first choice, and if we persist in our refusal they will offer the same proposition to the English government, which will be quick enough to accept it. Thus by the blunder of Congress we not only decline a free increase of our own mercantile marine, but we make ourselves accessory to an increase in the same proportion of the mercantile marine of our nearest rival. Secretary Fish, with an eye to the protection of our mails, has, it is reported, instructed Minister Washburne to request the Emperor Napoleon not to interfere with Prussian steamers carrying our mails. This is an extraordinary request to make to the Emperor when he is so palpably bent on a decisive and unrelenting war. He may probably feel kindly towards us for that blunder which Congress made (and Prussia, by the way, may feel correspondingly bitter), but he is too shrewd to forego such immense prizes merely through a kindly feeling. The only way in which we can protect our foreign mails is to hoist the American flag over them, and that Congress has lost the opportunity of doing.

## The Result of a Fireman's Fight.

A very striking example of the want of discipline in the fire departments of our neighbor cities was that furnished at the terrible conflagration in Meriden, Conn., on Saturday. While the fire companies were fighting among themselves about precedence at a hydrant the fire gained such headway in the splendid silver-plating factory of the Meriden Britannia Company that it was burned up, thus throwing six hundred people out of employment and destroying a quarter of a million dollars worth of property. This was a very unfortunate and a very disgraceful affair. Nothing of that kind could occur in this city under our paid Fire Department. Everything here is done with the promptness and regularity of military discipline. It is doubtful whether these Connecticut firemen are not amenable to the law, and should not be held penally responsible for the disaster. It is true they are merely volunteers; but then they have taken an obligation to perform certain public duties, and thus, in a measure, they prevent others from doing them. When the volunteer fireman neglects

these duties to indulge in a quarrel with another company, in presence of a terrible conflagration, he is certainly not free from responsibility. However, the only way to get rid of evils like these in all the country towns is to adopt the model of the New York paid Fire Department.

## The French Budget.

Were it possible to regulate finance by a military mandate or to control the rise and fall of values by the passwords of the bivouac, those men and nations who revel in war, keeping up standing armies in order to be prepared for conflicts, and then rushing into conflicts in order to employ the standing armies, would have an easy time of it. But practical experience teaches all what Canute had sense enough to discover for himself, that the billows of the sea, moral or physical, roll not back at any mortal's command. The great ebb and flow of monetary values follow a law of their own, which is measured healthily and normally by the good works of peace only.

France has just plunged into a tremendous and uncertain war. But the other day her legislators were most anxiously debating the budget. They disclosed the fact that the round product of all the French taxes and revenues is 1,511,709,190 francs, of which total it is impossible to expend less than 554,088,726 and pay all charges, pensions, &c., or a good deal more than one-third of the whole disposable sum. There remain, then, but 957,620,464 to pay the army and navy and the civil demands, including the judiciary, the church endowments, the various governmental departments, &c. These calls amount to about 848,000,000. The remainder is transferred to the credit of the extra budget, and is applied chiefly to the public works. In reference to these charges there is no hope of improvement unless there be a searching reform and curtailment of the army. On the contrary they increase every year, and at every session for the past dozen years there has been a large party to complain bitterly over the declining prosperity of the country staggering beneath the weight of such burdens. The various fixed taxes rated per head weigh very heavily, and imperatively demand modification. Yet they make up the great bulk of the revenue. The manorial revenue that comes into the State yields but 178,000,000 francs, while the indirect contributions on sugar and tobacco, salt, beverages, &c., yield 626,747,000 francs. One authoritative writer sets down all the indirect returns at four-fifths of the whole resources of the country, and were these large returns absolutely certain and not liable to fluctuations and changes they would form the right arm of the treasury. But it is often at the very time when they are most needed that they do not yield fruitfully. As matters have been recently, the floating debt of France has risen to nearly eight hundred millions, and overshadows the government with a continual menace of necessity for a new loan, and if we are to believe the recent report of M. Chémollet on the subject, the savings funds are more likely to exhibit deficits than a surplus. The city of Paris ran up enormous liabilities, and, as though following her example, very many of the smaller towns and communes have done likewise.

Now, therefore, pushing aside the chicanery and make-believe of those who try to confuse the question and draw distinctions where there are no differences, all these burdens rest upon the same shoulders. The individual who pays his share of the town or commune debt also pays to the general government his part of the general taxes. With the outbreak of war all these charges are increased, at the very moment when the cost of all the necessities of life is enhanced and the working force diminished. In the present year these difficulties are enormously augmented by various causes, foremost among which are the terrible drought and the failure of crops, the complaint of manufacturers in all directions, and the widespread trade strikes, now running into such dangerous demonstrations as those most recently made by bakers, gardeners, butchers, &c. Behind the scenes there is, after all, very little sentimentalism in war, and while the superficial observer may simply be amusing his fancy, if he be truer than he seems to be, he is heaped up dead, the ghastly wounds, the trampled, blood-polluted fields, and the tears and desolation, and poverty and vice, with the body and soul ruin that follows in a thousand homes, the statesman is gravely—oh, most gravely!—and anxiously pondering how all this is to be paid for from the scanty store at home. France, for instance, begins with a large loan and a muster of her reserves. How shall she end with that haunting *monstrum horrendum*, the budget of 1871?

## The Railway, the Telegraph, and the Fine Arts.

The railway and the telegraph have been ignorantly decried by some versifiers as products and exponents of a merely mechanical age—an age in which matter has usurped the throne of mind. Even so true a poet as Wordsworth dreaded the intrusion of the railway upon the beautiful repose of English rural scenery. He thought that the shrill steam whistle would scare away forever from his favorite haunts the *genius loci* which had inspired his muse. But more recent poets, with greater knowledge of the harmony between science and nature, and with clearer insight into the spiritual significance as well as material power of steam and electricity as special agents of modern life and civilization, have discovered and celebrated the poetry of the railway and the telegraph. These marvelous instruments of human will are bringing us swiftly to "the time of the end" predicted by the prophet Daniel, when "many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased." At length steam and electricity have been recognized and idealized within the domain of the fine arts. Signor Antonio Rossetti, a distinguished and wealthy sculptor, who is a Milanese by birth, but who has successfully pursued his profession for thirty years at Rome, has lately completed two remarkable statues, one of which he entitles *La Via Ferrata*, the Railway, and the other, *Il Telegrafo*, the Telegraph. The former is inscribed with the name of Stephenson, the inventor of the locomotive, and the latter with that of Morse, the inventor of the telegraph. The fact that Mr. Morse, the ex-President of the American Academy of Design, is himself an artist, makes

it the more appropriate that art should thus commemorate his great invention. The two statues might have evinced more originality if the sculptor had not relied chiefly upon the traditional means of distinguishing them by symbolic accessories. But the fine photographs of them which have been sent to us show that they are admirably executed. They can readily be multiplied by copies of any dimensions in marble or in bronze, and they would be suitable ornaments for railway and telegraph stations throughout the world.

Rossetti, the sculptor, is described as "a live man, an ardent patriot and a believer in the modern age." It is singularly suggestive that these statues in honor of two prime movers in this age of progress should have been completed in Rome at the very moment when the majority of the Eoumenical Council is generally supposed to be trying in the same city to clog the wheels of modern progress, to turn back the course of time, and, like Joshua of old, to make sun and moon stand still. It recalls to mind the famous protest of Galileo as he rose from his knees after having been forced to retract his theory of the motion of the earth—*E pur si muove!*

## France and the North German Confederation—Their Numerical Forces Not an Infallible Test of Their Relative Superiority.

France has a population of thirty-eight millions. That of the North German Confederation, consisting of Prussia, with the annexed States of Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, Schleswig-Holstein, Nassau and Frankfurt, and the German States north of the river Main, amounts to nearly thirty-one millions. The South German States, excluding Austria, may possibly aid Prussia in its resistance to French aggression, and they number nine millions. Thus the balance in point of population is slightly in favor of Germany. The French navy, with its fifty-five iron-clads and their 1,032 guns, against the Prussian navy, with but four such vessels and their fifty guns, and a similar disparity in other classes of war steamers, is indisputably superior. But although since the unexpected victory of Prussia in 1866 the efficiency of the French army as well as that of the French navy has been steadily increased and the effective force of the army with the reserve has been brought up to eight hundred thousand, a number larger by two hundred and sixty-three thousand than it had at the commencement of the Crimean war, yet the Prussian army has also been steadily increased, until it contains six hundred and fifteen thousand, of whom four hundred and fifty thousand are in active service, while the reserve of Prussia, consisting of the entire male population of suitable age, will enable her to bring into the field, for a defensive campaign, a full million of thoroughly drilled soldiers. Thus, in a military point of view, France and the North German Confederacy seem to be not very unequally matched.

But this apparent equilibrium of their numerical forces is not an infallible test of the relative superiority of the two nations. For it cannot be forgotten that the new German Confederacy is composed of the most heterogeneous elements to which the homogeneity of the French population must be a formidable and solid barrier. German unity has long been an unrealized dream. The unity which Prussia enforced in 1866 is but a tottering babe four years of age, and it must be an infant Hercules indeed, if it can successfully strike against the mature strength of French unity. It would seem as if all the sharply cut distinctions between Imperialist, Orientalist, Bourbonist and republican parties in France were about to be obliterated, at least temporarily, in the universal passionate desire of all Frenchmen to make the Rhine their natural and acknowledged boundary line. When it is remembered how reluctantly some of the lesser German States submitted to the revision of the map of Prussia, which her successes in 1866 rendered possible, and how impatient they still must secretly be under the yoke of Bismarck and William I., it can be imagined that if a French army were to occupy Dresden, for instance, its presence might revive old animosities to Prussia, whereas the occupation of Lyons by a Prussian army could not awaken, even among the revolutionary classes in that busy town any corresponding hostility to the Emperor of the French, so long as that sovereign rides, with his son, at the head of a French army, struggling against invaders of French territory. On both sides the enthusiasm for war appears to be almost equal. As we have intimated, the numerical forces of the opponents are not very unequal. But it will not be safe to predict the ultimate result of the contest between France and Prussia without a careful estimate of other elements in the problem than their respective numerical forces.

NEWS FROM THE ANTIPODES.—From Australasia we have newspaper mail reports of the progress of affairs at the Antipodes, dated to the 28th of May. The news details, which are quite interesting, are published to-day. The territory in the vicinity of the Hunter river was again visited by disastrous floods. John Chinaman made his first appearance as a convict on the gallows for murder, and died like "any other man." Like a great many other men under similar circumstances, his last words were "No, no," with regard to his guilt. Romance, crime, murder and suicide meet the eye pretty much on every page of our exchanges. Civilization is yet in its grand struggle with the *fera natura* of Australia, but civilization is gaining the mastery rapidly.

OUR SPECIAL LETTERS FROM EUROPE which appear in the HERALD to-day present an attractive exhibit of the Old World situation as it prevailed on the 2d of July. Our writer in Madrid draws attention to the mistake which the ex-Queen Isabella committed in going to Paris at any time previous to her abdication of the throne of Spain.

## A BOAT CAPSIZED—WAS THERE A MURDER.

Last evening as the ferryboat Middleton of the Staten Island line was proceeding down the bay she capsize two men clinging to a sailboat that had been capsized. They were rescued and gave the names of William Butler, of 131 Charlton street, and George Glewville, of Greenwich street, near Robert. Glewville stated that during a quarrel between Butler and John Williams, residing in King street, near Hudson, the boat was capsized, and Williams was drowned. Justice denied the statement declares he and Glewville were the only persons on board, and no quarrel occurred. Sergeant Haggerty, of the Fifth Precinct, who was on the Middleton, arrested Butler on suspicion of murder, and locked him up in the Mercer street station house.